

Legislative Update, March 2009

www.cpec.ca.gov • Draft report • March 9, 2009

by Julia Blair

This item discusses legislative initiatives being tracked by Commission staff for the 2009–10 legislative session, as well as analysis of bills which have been introduced since the last special Commission meeting in February.

The Commission will consider recommendations on bills introduced after the February meeting, as well as any changes to positions due to amendments of bills subsequent to the February meeting. A matrix of all bills by being monitored by Commission staff is included on page 10.

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Access

► AB 669 (Fong), Postsecondary Education: Residency Requirements

As introduced February 25, 2009

Staff Recommendation — Support

This bill creates an exception to the present uniform residency requirements that used to determine whether a person is a state resident for student fees purposes at UC, CSU and the Community Colleges. This exemption applies students aged 19 or under at the time of enrollment, who are dependents or wards of the state through California's child welfare system and those formerly served by California's child welfare system and who are no longer being served either due to emancipation or aging out of the system.

Students applying from a state custodial system often have trouble accessing college and applying for aid because they cannot prove residency, complete a FAFSA, get a transcript authorized, or provide other things needed for an application. This bill allows one state-run system (welfare) to take on the "parent" role for validating residency for these students.

▶ *Indicates a bill added since the last edition of this Legislative Update.*

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Affordability

AB 317 (Solorio), College Textbook Affordability

As introduced February 18, 2009

Staff Recommendation - Support

This bill expresses the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation making college textbooks more affordable.

▶ S|R 2 (Liu), State Tax Credits for Education, College Textbook Affordability.

As introduced February 25, 2009

Staff Recommendation - Support

This measure commends Congress and the President for including the American Opportunity Tax Credit in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 enabling California to make college affordable for students. The measure expresses Legislative intent to adopt similar higher education tax credits when the state's economic conditions improve.

SB 48 (Alquist), College Textbook Affordability and Online Textbooks

As introduced January 12, 2009

Commission Position — Support

This bill states legislative intent to enact legislation relating to the affordability of college text-books and the promotion and use of online textbooks.

► SB 216 (Liu), Public Postsecondary Education: Textbooks

As introduced February 23, 2009

Staff Recommendation - Support

This bill revises provisions in law affecting textbook publishers, encouraging them to take, at a minimum, those specified actions aimed at reducing the amounts that students currently pay for textbooks. The bill encourages publishers to provide lists and prices of different products they currently sell and have sold. This bill will likely be amended in the coming weeks.

Postsecondary Education Facilities Funding

AB 220 (Brownley), Educational Facilities – 2009 Facilities Bond Act

As introduced February 4, 2009

Commission Position — Support

The bill states legislative intent to place the Kindergarten–University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2009 on the ballot for the November 3, 2009 statewide general election. The bill does not yet specify the amount of this general obligation bond. If passed, the bond would provide funds for public K-12 education and public postsecondary education.

SB 271 (Ducheny), Public Postsecondary Education: Public Education Facilities Bond Act

As introduced February 23, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Watch

This bill requires that proposals for joint-use facilities be a priority from funding contained in a future facilities bond act funds for the public higher education systems. The bill also authorizes the systems to spend these bond funds for off-site mitigation necessary to facilitate campus capital projects.

The Commission supports increased development of joint-use facilities and recognizes the funding challenges faced by the segments in meeting requirements from local governments to provide off-site mitigation for their construction projects. The next education bond issue will be on the ballot no earlier than 2010 and there are many issues to be resolved in the interim.

Private Postsecondary Education

AB 48 (Portantino), Private Postsecondary Education: Department of Consumer Affairs

As introduced December 1, 2008

Commission Position – Watch

This bill expresses legislative intent to enact legislation establishing a Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education to oversee private postsecondary schools. The bill also expresses legislative intent that until the bureau is established, the Department of Consumer Affairs should respond to student complaints and provide information to students and prospective students on private postsecondary schools. The bill continues the existence of the Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Administration Fund under the administration of the Department of Consumer Affairs and appropriates \$1 million from that fund to the department to carry out the complaint resolution and consumer information functions.

SB 489 (Liu), Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform and Student Consumer Protection Act of 2009

As introduced February 26, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Watch

The Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform Act of 1989, which became inoperative on July 1, 2007 and was repealed on January 1, 2008, was administered by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education in the Department of Consumer Affairs. The former act generally applied legislative intent to ensure minimum standards of instructional quality and institutional stability in private postsecondary educational institutions and required the bureau, to review and investigate all institutions, programs, and courses of instruction approved under the act. This bill would enact the Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform and Student Consumer Protection Act of 2009, which would express the intent of the Legislature to, among other things, provide for the protection, education, and welfare of California's citizens, postsecondary educational institutions, and students, as specified.

Segmental Mission and Functions

AB 24 (Block), Feasibility Study for a CSU center at Chula Vista

As amended February 26, 2009

Commission Position – Watch

This bill requires CSU to conduct a study on the feasibility of opening a satellite center in Chula Vista, with the ultimate goal of establishing it as an independent campus. This study is to be finished by January 2011.

AB 78 (Portantino), Concurrent Enrollment in Community College and Secondary Schools As introduced December 18, 2008

Commission Position - Support

This bill amends current law by authorizing school districts to enter into partnerships with community college districts to allow high school students to enroll in community college courses. Current law requires school principals to provide a recommendation for students wishing to attend a community college summer session, and generally limits this summer session attendance to 5% of students from any grade level.

This bill deletes those provisions and establishes a procedure for high school students to attend community colleges. The bill specifies that these students be counted as full-time equivalent students for the purpose of state apportionments to the community college district, except for instructional activities for which payment is to be made to the student's K-12 school district.

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▶ AB 723 (Conway), Community Colleges: Career Technical Education

As introduced February 26, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Watch

This bill expresses Legislative intent to develop and adopt uniform, objective, high-quality criteria and standards for evaluating programs in career technical education at community colleges.

▶ AB 788 (Swanson), Community Colleges: Career Technical Education

As introduced February 26, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Watch

This bill express Legislative intent to allocate funds received from the federal government to support the expansion of career technical education programs at community colleges.

► AB 867 (Nava), CSU: Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree

As introduced February 26, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Watch

This bill authorizes CSU to award the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. The bill would distinguish the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from research-based doctoral degrees offered at UC. The bill requires that these programs to be designed to enable professionals to earn the degree while working full time, train nurses for advanced practice, and prepare faculty to teach in postsecondary nursing programs.

Staff are working with representatives of CSU to assure that programs developed under this legislation be subject to CPEC statutory role for program review, as prescribed in Education Code Section 66903.

► AB 1295 (Fuller), Nursing Degree Programs

As introduced February 27, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Watch

This bill expresses Legislative intent to create a model program to facilitate and expedite the completion of coursework necessary to earn a bachelor of science in nursing degree or a master of science in nursing degree for licensed registered nurses who have completed associate degrees in nursing. It also calls for the establishment of programs to facilitate the completion of Master of Science in nursing degrees by students with bachelor's degrees, along with contains other existing laws.

▶ SB 147 (DeSaulnier), UC and CSU: Career Technical Education Courses

As introduced February 24, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Oppose, unless amended

This bill requires the CSU Trustees and strongly urges the UC Regents to recognize high school career technical education (CTE) courses that meet the CTE model curriculum standards as satisfying the elective requirement in the a–g admission requirements. Presently, UC and CSU faculty have the responsibility for determining the acceptability of high school courses for meeting the a–g requirements in consultation with their K-12 colleagues. This bill would legislate portions of the current academic process by which higher education faculty determine the applicability of selected high school courses to the college preparation process.

▶ SB 511 (Committee on Education), Postsecondary Education: Standardized Testing

As introduced February 26, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Watch

This bill requires the California Department of Education to inform grade 11 students who take a California Standards Test that is supplemented with another test designed to assess college-readiness (such as with the CSU's EAP test) that the student may request that results from that supplemental test be released to a postsecondary educational institution.

Student Fees and Financial Aid

AB 38 (Salas), Postsecondary Education: Resident Classification for Veterans

As introduced December 1, 2008

Commission Position – Support

This bill repeals an existing provision of law that determines residency status for military veterans and enact the Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2009. Currently, a student who was a member of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in California on active duty for more than one year immediately before being discharged can be classified as a resident for student fee purposes for the length of time they lived in California after being discharged up to the minimum time necessary to become a resident. This bill deletes the one year requirement. The student would have to meet other requirements, including eligibility for federal veterans' education benefits.

AB 69 (Duvall), Statewide Student Fee Policy

As introduced December 12, 2008

Commission Position – Watch

This bill requires CSU and UC to set fees over a four-year period instead of annually, effective with the 2010–11 fiscal year. The bill provides CSU and UC the discretion to set the fee levels for that period. This bill deletes provisions that required the fees and tuition for resident undergraduates be reduced to the 1998–99 and 1999–2000 fiscal year levels. The bill applies to UC only to the extent that the Regents act by resolution to make its provisions applicable.

SB 15 (Cedillo), Student Financial Aid: Veterans and Members of the Armed Forces

As introduced December 1, 2008

Commission Position - Support

This bill amends current law on Cal Grant A and B awards to entitle otherwise eligible students who are veterans or members the U.S. Armed Forces, and who enroll in a community college career technical education program or qualifying undergraduate certificate or degree program, beginning with the 2010–11 academic year.

The bill requires the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) to make preliminary awards to all currently eligible applicants, who would be required to affirm in writing that they meet the program requirements. The bill requires CSAC to randomly select at least 10% of awards made under these provisions to verify that students meet eligibility requirements, and to seek repayment of improperly-disbursed funds. The bill requires CSAC to report annually to the Legislature and Governor the number of awards made under this program.

▶ SB 160 (Cedillo), Student Financial Aid: Institutional Financial Aid and Eligibility

As introduced February 14, 2009

Staff Recommendation – Support

This bill requires the CSU Trustees and the California Community Colleges Board of Governors, and to requests the UC Regents, to establish procedures enabling persons who are exempt from paying nonresident tuition under AB 540 Firebaugh (Chapter 814, Statutes of 2001) to be eligible to receive institutional financial aid. The bill defines "institutional financial aid" to include grants, scholarships, work-study, and loan programs, but excludes community colleges Board of Governors fee waivers. The bill is consistent with legislation the Commission supported in recent years to make education more affordable to undocumented students covered under AB 540. These students must have attended California high schools for three or more years and must have filed an affidavit that they are seeking lawful immigration status.

Workforce Development

AB 35 (Furutani), Education: Workforce Preparation

As introduced December 1, 2008

Commission Position - Support

This bill declares legislative intent to enact legislation to develop a strategic plan for California's education system as relates to the preparation of students for the workforce.

AB 148 (Coto), Commission on Teacher Credentialing: Study on Transformational Leadership As introduced January 22, 2009 Commission Position – Watch

This bill requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to conduct a study to recommend more effective paths to transformational leadership, through the administrative credential process on the part of school principals and leaders. The bill requires the CTC to conduct the study between July 2010 and June 2011, and report its findings to the Legislature by December 2011. The bill repeals those provisions as of January 1, 2012.

► SB 199 (Ducheny), Postsecondary Education: Instructional Strategies: Subject Matter Projects

As introduced February 23, 2009

Staff Recommendation — Support

Existing law authorizes the UC Regents to establish and maintain cooperative endeavors designed to develop and enhance teachers' subject matter and content knowledge in six subject matter project areas. Existing law provides goals for these projects. Among these is the goal to provide support to teachers to develop and enhance the content knowledge and pedagogical skills necessary to implement State Board of Education standards. This bill would provide that this support may include assistance to teachers to develop and enhance the content knowledge and pedagogical skills necessary to develop and deliver instruction in multiple-pathway programs and career technical education. The bill would also authorize three additional subject matter projects: the California Physical Education-Health Project, the California Arts Project, and the California Foreign Language Project.

► AB 1495 (V. Manuel Perez), California Postsecondary Education Commission: Workforce Development

As introduced February 27, 2009

Staff Recommendation - Support

Existing law establishes CPEC as the statewide postsecondary education coordinating and planning agency and provides for its responsibilities. This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to require CPEC to establish an initiative to improve local workforce development systems' coordination and collaboration with the state's education system.

Other Areas

AB 218 (Portantino), Establishment of a new Accountability Framework for Higher Education As introduced February 3, 2009 Commission Position — Support

The bill deletes the following CPEC statutory requirements from current law: develop criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of all aspects of postsecondary education; convene an intersegmental advisory committee on transfer; review and make recommendations on postsecondary programs for adult education; report on the financial conditions of independent institutions; annual reporting requirements from CSU, UC, and the community colleges to CPEC on transfer patterns. This bill repeals the existing higher education accountability program and requires the state to establish a new accountability framework with prescribed goals for higher education. Data collected would be reported to the Legislature and the Governor and made available to the public. The bill is consistent with provisions in SB 325, which the Commission supported last legislative session.

AB 224 (Portantino), Education: Internet Broadcasts of Board Meetings

As introduced February 4, 2009

Commission Position - Support

This bill requires CPEC, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the CSU Board of Trustees, CSAC, and the Board of Directors of EdFund to broadcast their board meetings over the Internet and to provide public notice of the availability of these proceedings. The bill also requests the UC Board of Regents to comply with these provisions. Staff believe that CPEC's current practice for audio-streaming meetings is consistent with this legislation.

▶ AB 440 (Beall), California Community Colleges: Student Transfer

As introduced February 18, 2009

Staff Recommendation - Support

This bill authorizes community colleges to grant an associate in arts degree in transfer studies to a student meeting specified requirements.

► AB 1182 (Brownley), Public Postsecondary Education: Reporting Requirements

As introduced February 27, 2009

Staff Recommendation — Support

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to refine higher education reporting requirements to provide for more effective, manageable, and transparent reporting by the higher education systems. The bill further expresses the intent of the Legislature that the Budget Act for the 2010–11 fiscal year modify recurring Budget Bill language, as specified. This bill is the re-run of last year's AB 1821 that the Commission worked on and strongly supported.

► AB 1222 (Lowenthal), CSU: Alumni Disclosure

As introduced February 27, 2009

Staff Recommendation — Support

This bill amends current law to maintain statutory provisions protecting the personal information of donors set to expire. The bill provides donors with proper notice before indentifying information about them is made available to the public. CPEC staff believe this bill safeguards personal privacy while also appropriately maintaining public access to donor records.

SB 19 (Simitian), Education Data

As introduced December 1, 2008

Commission Position – Watch

This bill states legislative intent to amend the State Education Code to enact legislation to create the Statewide Education Data Governing Board. This board would help link education data from education and non-education sources to ensure the quality of this data, and to provide access to that data for educational purposes.

SB 123 (Liu), California Career Resource Network Program.

As introduced February 4, 2009

Commission Position - Support

Under current law, the California Career Resource Network provides career development information and resources to Californians to them to reach their career goals. This bill would establish this network as a program in the California Department of Education. At present, this network consists of representatives from the following offices:

Director of Employment Development

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Chancellor of the California Community Colleges

Director of Rehabilitation

Director of Social Services

Executive Director of the California Workforce Investment Board

Executive Secretary of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education

Director of the California Youth Authority

Director of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Director of the Department of Developmental Services

This bill establishes these representatives as the State Agency Partners Committee and requires the Committee to coordinate the use of network information and resources in its programs. These provisions would become operative in July 2010. The Commission has supported interagency initiatives that help Californians develop better-informed career paths and obtain employment. Staff recommend that the Commission support this bill while we work with the author on including CPEC on the State Agency Partners Committee. This bill passed through the Legislature last year, but the Governor vetoed it in his vetoes last session.

▶ SB 775 (Liu), Postsecondary Education Accountability Program.

As introduced February 27, 2009

Staff Recommendation — Support

This bill repeals the current higher education accountability program established through Assembly Bill 1808 (Hayden, Chapter 741, Statutes of 1991). The bill requires the state to establish a new accountability framework to achieve prescribed educational and economic goals. CPEC staff will work with the author to relate the Commission's extensive policy work on this issue.

Other Bills being Monitored by Staff

AB 8 (Brownley), Education Finance Working Group

As introduced December 1, 2008

This bill requires the Director of Finance and the Legislative Analyst to convene a working group to examine current methods of financing public K-12 education with the goal of restructuring the way the state finances K-12 education. This group is to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor by December 2010.

AB 105 (Evans), Finance — 2009–10 California State Budget

As introduced January 9, 2009

Staff Recommendation: Remove

This bill is the Assembly version of the state budget for the 2009–10 fiscal year and contains appropriations for state operations.

SB 47 (Ducheny), Finance — 2009–10 California State Budget

As introduced January 9, 2009

Staff Recommendation: Remove

This bill is the Senate version of the state budget for the 2009–10 fiscal year and contains appropriations for the state operations.

SCA I (Walters), Amend Two-thirds Vote Requirements for State Budget

As introduced December 1, 2008

This measure amends the constitutional requirement that two-thirds of each house of the State Legislature must vote to pass a bill appropriating money from the General Fund. This measure provides that if the total amount of Budget Bill and other General Fund appropriations for the coming fiscal year is within 5% of total General Fund appropriations for the preceding fiscal year, the Budget Bill may be passed by a simple majority vote, with specifications. The measure provides that statutes enacting a Budget Bill meeting the conditions set forth in this provision take effect immediately, and are not subject to referendum.

SCA 5 (Hancock), Exempt Budget Bill from Two-thirds Vote Requirements for Passage As introduced December 2, 2008

This measure exempts General Fund appropriations in the annual Budget Bill from the constitutional requirement that two-thirds of each house of the state Legislature must vote to pass a bill appropriating money from the State General Fund. This measure changes existing statute to provide that the Budget Bill and its trailer bills that are necessary to implement the Budget Bill are permitted to take effect immediately upon enactment.

SUMMARY MATRIX OF BILLS

updated March 9, 2009

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Bill Number	Author	Subject	CPEC Position	Dead/2 YR	1st Desk	1st Policy	1st Fiscal	1st Floor	2nd Desk	2nd Policy	2nd Fiscal	2nd Floor	Conf./Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered	Comments
AB 24	Block	California	Watch	1st I	Polic	`\											03/03/2009-In com-
		State Univer- sity: feasibil- ity study: Chula Vista.															mittee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.
AB 35	Furutani	Education: workforce preparation.	Support	1st I	Desl	(12/02/2008-From printer. May be heard in committee January 1.
AB 36		Public educa- tion: readi- ness year program.	Staff Recommendation - Support	1st I	Desl	< 											12/02/2008-From printer. May be heard in committee January 1.
AB 38	Salas	Postsecondary education: resident classification: veterans.	Support	1st I	Polic	су											03/03/2009-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.
AB 48	Portantino	Private post- secondary education: Department of Consumer Affairs.	Watch	1st I	Polic	Cy											03/03/2009-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.
AB 69	Duvall	Statewide student fee policy.	Watch	1st I	Polic	СУ											03/03/2009-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.
AB 78		Pupils: con- current en- rollment in community college and secondary or elementary school.	Support Position Letter	1st	Polic	CY											03/04/2009-From committee: Do pass, and re-refer to Com. on ED. Re-referred. (Ayes 9. Noes 0.) (March 3).
AB 148		Commission on Teacher Credentialing: study on transformational leadership.	Watch	1st I	Polic	СУ											02/26/2009-Referred to Com. on ED.
AB 218	Portantino	Postsecondary education: Educational and Economic Goals for California Higher Education.	Support	1st I	Polic	СУ											03/04/2009-Referred to Com. on HIGHER ED.

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Bill Number	Author	Subject	CPEC Position	Dead/2 YR	1st Desk	1st Policy	1st Fiscal	1st Floor	2nd Desk	2nd Policy	2nd Fiscal	2nd Floor	Conf./Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered	Comments
AB 220	Brownley	Public education facilities: Kindergarten- University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2009.	Support	1st D)esk												02/05/2009-From printer. May be heard in committee March 7.
AB 224	Portantino	Postsecondary education.	Support	1st P	olicy	,											03/04/2009-Referred to Com. on HIGHER ED.
AB 317	Solorio	Postsecondary education: textbook affordability.	Staff Recommendation - Watch	1st C	esk												02/19/2009-From printer. May be heard in committee March 21.
SB 15	Cedillo	Student fi- nancial aid: members and former mem- bers of the Armed Forces.	Support	1st P	olicy	′											01/29/2009-To Com. on ED.
SB 19	Simitian	Education data.	Watch	1st P	olicy	, 											01/29/2009-To Com. on RLS.
SB 48	Alquist	College text- books: af- fordability and online textbooks.	Support	1st P	olicy	,											01/29/2009-To Com. on RLS.
SB 123	Liu	California Career Re- source Net- work Pro- gram.	Support	1st P	olicy	,											03/03/2009-Set for hearing March 11. (Refers to 3/11/2009 hearing)
SB 147	DeSaulnie	r University of California and California State University: career technical education courses.	Staff Recommendation - Watch	1st P	olicy	′											02/23/2009-To Com. on ED.
SB 155	Wright	Student fi- nancial aid: Assumption Program of Loans for Education: school nurses.	Staff Recommendation - Watch	1st P	olicy	, 											02/23/2009-To Com. on ED.
SB 160	Cedillo	Student fi- nancial aid: institutional financial aid eligibility.	Staff Recommendation - Support	1st D	esk												02/15/2009-From print. May be acted upon on or after March 17.
SB 182	Ashburn	Community college nursing faculty.	Staff Recommendation - Watch	1st C	esk												02/18/2009-From print. May be acted upon on or after March 20.

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Three vacancies

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Seven vacancies